

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-6, 8-13, 16-19, 22, and 23 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying, from a set of images, images in which a specified object is present, the method comprising the steps of:

choosing, from the set of images, an indicative image in which the specified object is present;

selecting a part of the object in the indicative image;

comparing a color of the selected part to colors in the images belonging to the set of images; and

~~searching the set of images for the part dependent upon the color of the part; and~~

tagging the images in the set containing a color that matches the color of the selected part in the indicative image ~~in which the part is found.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the object is a person, and wherein said selecting step selects a fashion accessory worn by the person as the part of the ~~object is a fashion accessory worn by the person.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step comprises the step of manually providing manual provision of designation information in ~~information, in~~ relation to the indicative image, said designation information identifying the part

of the object.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~prior to said selecting step the~~ said method further comprises the step of defining the part of the object as an item in a menu ~~prior to said selecting step~~, and wherein said selecting step comprises selecting the part from the menu.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said selecting step comprises an additional sub-step of selecting another part of the object having another color;

~~said searching step comprises an additional sub-step of searching the set of images for the other part of the object as well as for the part of the object; and~~

said comparing step further comprises the step of comparing the another color against colors in the images belonging to the set of images; and

said tagging step comprises the step of tagging images in the set if both ~~the part and the other part~~ a first color that matches the color of the selected part in the indicative image and a second color that matches the another color are found therein.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
~~said searching step comprises an additional sub-step of searching the set of images for human skin color as well as for the part of the object; and~~

said comparing step further comprises the step of comparing colors in the images belonging to the set of images to human skin color; and

said tagging step comprises the step of tagging the images in the set if both ~~said~~ a color that matches the color of the selected part and ~~said~~ the skin colour color are found therein.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising, prior to said choosing step, additional steps of:

deriving meta-data for a core set of images;

grouping the core set into one or more event image sets dependent upon the meta-data;

and

choosing the set of images from the one or more event image sets.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the meta-data comprises time stamps associated with the images in the core set, and said grouping step comprises, in relation to an image in the core set, a sub-step of:

assigning ~~the~~ an image to an event image set if an associated time stamp falls within a predetermined event time interval.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein said meta-data comprises time stamps for the images in the core set, and said grouping step comprises, in relation to an image in the core set of images, a sub-step of:

assigning ~~the~~ an image to an event image set if an associated time stamp can be clustered with time stamps associated with other images in the event image set.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~searching~~ comparing step comprises sub-steps of:

color segmenting images in the set of images into at least one color region; and

determining for each image in the set whether the color of the selected part in the indicative image matches ~~the~~ at least one color region of the color segmented image; and

wherein the tagging step comprises the step of flagging a ~~the~~ presence of the selected part of the object if a match is found.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein:

(1) the part selected in the indicative image, in addition to ~~the~~ its color, has at least one of a distinctive size attribute and a distinctive shape attribute;

(2) said determining step comprises at least a further ~~sub-step~~ sub-steps of :

(a) determining whether a size of ~~the~~ a region of the color segmented image matches the distinctive size; and

(b) determining whether a shape of ~~the~~ a region of the color segmented image matches the distinctive shape; and

(3) said ~~flagging~~ tagging step comprises flagging a ~~the~~ presence of the selected part of the object if at least one of a color match, a size match, and a shape match is found.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for identifying, from a set of images, images in which a specified object is present, said apparatus comprising:

means for choosing, from the set of images, an indicative image in which the specified object is present;

means for selecting a part of the object in the indicative image;

means for comparing a color of the selected part to colors in the images belonging to the set of images; and

~~means for searching the set of images for the part dependent upon the color of the part;~~
and

means for tagging the images in the set ~~in which the part is found~~ containing a color that matches the color of the selected part in the indicative image.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for permitting manual designation of information in ~~manual provision of designation information,~~ in relation to the indicative image, to thereby identify the part of the object.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for defining the part of the object as an item in a menu; and

means for selecting the part from the menu.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:
means for deriving meta-data for a core set of images;
means for grouping the core set into one or more event image sets dependent upon the meta-data; and
means for choosing the set, of images from the one or more event image sets.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:
means for color segmenting images in the set of images into at least one color region;
means for determining, in regard to a color segmented image in the set, whether the color of the part selected in the indicative image matches the at least one color region; and
means for flagging a the presence of the selected part of the object if a match is found.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for identifying, from a set of images, images in which a specified object is present, ~~an object in a target image~~, said apparatus comprising:
a memory configured to store ~~for storing~~ a program; and
a processor configured to execute ~~for executing~~ the program, ~~said the~~ program comprising:

- (a) code for choosing, from the set of images, an indicative image in which the specified object is present;
- (b) code for selecting a part of the object in the indicative image;
- (c) ~~code for searching the set of images for the part dependent upon the color of~~

~~the part, and~~ code for comparing a color of the selected part to colors in the images belonging to the set of images; and

(d) code for tagging the images in the set ~~in which the part is found~~ containing a color that matches the color of the selected part in the indicative image.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program which is configured to instruct ~~make~~ a computer to execute a procedure for identifying, from a set of images, images in which a specified object is present, said program comprising:

code for choosing, from the set of images, an indicative image in which the specified object is present;

code for selecting a part of the object in the indicative image;

~~code for searching the set of images for the part dependent upon the color of the part;~~

and

code for comparing a color of the selected part to colors in the images belonging to the set of images; and

code for tagging the images in the set ~~in which the part is found~~ containing a color that matches the color of the selected part in the indicative image.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer program according to claim 18, further comprising:

code for permitting the manual ~~provision of~~ designation of information in ~~information;~~

in relation to the indicative image, to thereby identify the part of the object.

20. (Previously Presented) A computer program according to claim 18, further comprising:

code for defining the part of the object as an item in a menu; and

code for selecting the part from the menu.

21. (Previously Presented) A computer program according to claim 18, further comprising:

code for deriving meta-data for a core set of images;

code for grouping the core set into one or more event image sets dependent upon the meta-data; and

code for choosing a desired image set, comprising an indicative image and at least one target image, from the one or more event image sets.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer program according to claim 18, further comprising:

code for color segmenting images in the set of images into at least one color region;

code for determining, in regard to a color segmented image, whether the color of the part selected in the indicative image matches the at least one color region in the color segmented image; and

code for flagging a the presence of the selected part of the object if a match is found.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer program product including a computer readable medium having recorded thereon a computer program which is configured to ~~make~~ instruct a computer to execute a procedure for identifying, from a set of images, images in which a specified object is present, the program comprising:

code for choosing, from the set of images, an indicative image in which the specified object is present;

code for selecting a part of the object in the indicative image;

~~code for searching the set of images for the part dependent upon the color of the part;~~

and

code for comparing a color of the selected part to colors in the images belonging to the set of images; and

code for tagging the images in the set ~~in which the part is found~~ containing a color that matches the color of the selected part in the indicative image.